

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (currently amended) Device for the DC-decoupled connection of a telephone line to a digital signal processing device at the subscriber end of the telephone line, comprising a first circuit, which is connected to the telephone line;

~~a transformer;~~

a second circuit, which is connected to the digital signal processing device;

the first circuit exhibiting a hybrid circuit ~~between the transformer and the telephone line~~ for separating the signals of the telephone line in a first signal path which extends from the telephone line to the digital signal processing device, and into a second signal path which extends from the digital signal processing device to the telephone line;

~~and comprising a single~~the transformer ~~which exhibits~~having a first and a second winding;

the first winding being connected to the first circuit and the second winding being connected to the second circuit;

the first and second winding being DC-coupled from one another;

the first and second circuits transmitting the signals of the first and second signal paths transmitting bi-directionally by a ~~time-division multiplex method multiplex method or a frequency-division multiplex method ping-pong process~~ decoupled via the transformer for both directions of transmission.

2. (previously presented) Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the first circuit in the first signal path exhibits an analog/digital converter which follows the hybrid circuit, and the first circuit in the second signal path exhibits a digital/analog converter which precedes the hybrid circuit.

3. (previously presented) Device according to Claim 2, characterized in that the output of the analog/digital converter and the input of the digital/analog converter are connected to a first digital signal multiplexer which, in turn, is connected to the first winding of the transformer.

4. (previously presented) Device according to Claim 3, characterized in that the signal multiplexer is operated in such a manner that the first and the second signal path are alternately connected to the transformer.

5. (previously presented) Device according to Claim 4, characterized in that the second circuit exhibits a second digital signal multiplexer which is connected to the second winding of the transformer.

6. (previously presented) Device according to Claim 5, characterized in that the second circuit exhibits an oscillator circuit which provides the clock for the second digital signal multiplexer.

7. (previously presented) Device according to Claim 6, characterized in that the first digital signal multiplexer exhibits a clock recovery circuit which recovers the clock of the oscillator circuit and provides it to the first circuit.

8. (Cancelled)